

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5474

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T GENEVA 6652

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECDEF AND JCS

DOD AND JCS TREAT AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFEF, EAID, AO, PO

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE FOR ANGOLA REFUGEES GOING TO PORTUGAL

REF: STATE 203574

1. DRAWING ON CONTENTS REFTEL, MISSION HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS OFFICER HAD MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES UNHCR AND ICRC TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE USG AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR ANGOLA REFUGEES GOING TO PORTUGAL.

2. FIRST MEETING WAS HELD WITH DEPUTY UNHCR AND TWO AFRICAN AREA REPRESENTATIVES. AFTER HEARING SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL, DEPUTY HCR STATED THAT UNHCR DOES NOT CLASSIFY ANGOLANS AS REFUGEES SINCE THEY CONSIDERED PORTUGUESE CITIZENS. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT SUBJECT OF ANGOLA PROBLEM WAS DISCUSSED BETWEEN UN SEC GEN WALDHEIM, UNHCR SADRUDDIN AGA KHAN AND PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT COSTA GOMEZ AND SPECIAL ENVOY SANTOS TO UN. IN THIS DISCUSSION UN SEC GEN AND UNHCR

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INFORMED PORTUGUESE REPS THAT PROBLEM OF MOVEMENT

AND RESETTLEMENT IS RESPONSIBILITY OF PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT.

3. IN MEETING WITH J. P. HOCKE, ICRC DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, HE EXPRESSED DEFINITE ICRC INTEREST IN CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF ANGOLA REFUGEES BOTH IN COUNTRY AND AFTER ARRIVAL PORTUGAL. HE ESTIMATES THERE BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PERSONS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE. ALTHOUGH ICRC NOW HAS THREE TEAMS WORKING IN ANGOLA, ICRC SENDING TWO REPS TO ASSESS AND PREPARE REPORT ON SITUATION IN COUNTRY. HOCKE EXPECTS THAT NEW APPEAL WILL BE MAKE IN MID-SEPTEMBER TO GOVERNMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO SUPPORT ICRC ANGOLA HUMANITARIAN RELIEF ACTIVITIES. ICRC NOW ONLY INTERNATIONAL AGENCY OPERATING IN ANGOLA FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND RELIEF SUPPLIES. A DC-6 HAS BEEN CHARTERED FOR NEXT 2 TO 3 MONTHS TO OPERATE WITHIN ANGOLA TO TRANSPORT PEOPLE AND RELIEF SUPPLIES AT ESTIMATED MONTHLY COST OF \$22,388.

4. ON BASIS PRESENT ICRC ACTIVITIES, HOCKE ESTIMATES ROUND HOUSE FIGURE \$1 TO 2 MILLION NEEDED TO FUND DC-6 CHARTER, RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN ANGOLA AND CONTRIBUTION TO PORTUGUESE RED CROSS SOCIETY FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF ARRIVING REFUGEES.

5. AS LONG AS PRESENT FLIGHTS OUT OF ANGOLA CAN BE MADE ICRC CONSIDERS THESE PORTUGUESE GOVT RESPONSIBILITY. IF GOP CANNOT CONTINUE PRESENT AIRLIFT OR IF SITUATION REQUIRES ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT, THEN ICRC THINKS OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE, SUCH AS ICEM CAN PROVIDE, WILL BE NEEDED.DALE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF AND JCS.

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